S/Shri S.P. Kapil, Director (CSE) was retired compulsory from Municipal Service on 30-9-88 under FR 56 (J) and Dr. J.C Narang was allowed to retire voluntary irom service w.e.f. 23-9-88.

In respect of remaining 13 officials / officers the action taken by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi is as follows —

Departmental Action for Major Penalty proceedings is being taken against tne following :—

S/Shri G.O. Garg, Jt. Director (CSE), T.R. Gupta, EE (Auto), R.S. Arora, EE (CSE), S.K. Sharma, St (CSE), Z?mir-ul-Islam, ES/CSI Minor penalty proceedings nave been initiated, and Charge-Sheets have already been issued to the following : —

S/Shri R.K. Gupta, JE, Deepak Khosla, JE, Inder Singn ASI, D.S, Rana AS[r], Nahar Singh, ASI.

Deterioration of telephone services in Asansol-Raniganj

806. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA *i* Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whither Government are aware that the telephone services in Asansol-Raniganj Coal Belt in West Bengal are deteriorating day by day ;

(b) whether any High Power Team visited this area to look into the problems of the people ; and

(c) if so, what are the details of observations and recommendations of the Team and by when these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) No Sir, telephone services in Asansol-Raniganj coal-belt area in West Bengal are generally satisfatory.

(b) Yes Sir. A High-Power Team visited this area in 1986.

(c) Following main recommendations were made :

(i) Replacement of existing strowger system by electronic system.

(ii) Provision of inter-TAX junction between Asansol and Siliguri, and

(iii) To bring Andol system in group dialling.

All these recommendations are likely to be implemented by 1990-91.

In service training of IAS/IPS Officers

807. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of I.A.S. and I.P.S, officers who have undergone in-service training so far under the new training programme started by Government ;

(b) whether any attempt has been made to evaluate the benefits which have accrued to the administration as a result of this training programme; and

(c) if not whether Government propose to undertake such an evaluation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a)

Under the new training programme started by Government, the number of IAS officers who have attended the one week refresher courses and 4-week training programme is as follows :

1985-86 ...	3480
1986-87 . . .	3398
1987-88	3138
1988-89 . . .	3084

So far 1250 IPS officers have undergone the in-service training under the new training programme.

(b) and (c) Details are given in the statement.

Statement

IAS

The one week refresher courses and 4 week training programmes organised for IAS officers is in pursuance of the Government decision to restructure civil service training to develop competence and a work culture suited to the service of the people. An evaluation of the one week refresher courses was commissioned on two training experts independently. In their reports submitted in February 1987, they recommended the continuance of the courses with certain modifications in the objective and training methodology which have since been carried out.

A Committee under the Chairmanship of a Member, Planning Commission was constituted in July, 1988 to evaluate the 4 weeks programmes. The Committee in its report has appreciated the knowledge and skills brought by these programmes to bear on the diverse challenges of development work that IAS officers are charged with.

IPS

The new Training Programmes have enabled IPS officers to improve their performance and efficiency in the field which is a direct benefit to the Administration. As such no formal evaluation of the benefits which have accrued to the administration as a result of this training programme has been made.

No proposal is pending to undertake such an evaluation for the present.

Backwardness in the country

808. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that vast pockets of backwardness continued to exist in the country, according to the latest figures, despite almost 40 years of planned development;

(b) if so, the extent of disparity which exists between the most developed and the least developed States in the country in terms of indices of economic progress ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government during the 8th Five Year Plan to correct this imbalance ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) A number of schemes and programmes such as drought . prone area programme (DPAP), desert development programme (DDP), tribal sub plan (TSP), hill areas development plan (HADP), employment programmes etc., have been taken on hand to accelerate the development of backward regions in the country. Certain pockets, however, still continue to be backward due to several factors such as difference in resource endowment, disparities in availability of infrastructural facilities, physiographic factors and geographical conditions.

(b) Statements indicating State wise per capita income at constan- prices and number of percentage ot population below the poverty linef aie annexed *[See* Appendix CLl,